

Southern Arizona Al-Anon Information Service (AIS) Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

6:30-7:45 PM

Zoom Meeting

Access Code: 879 9286 3715

Passcode: 913121

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Kathy M. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Welcome and Courtesy Guidelines – Kathy M.

Step 3 – Sue C.

Tradition 3 – Ricki

Concept 3 – Kathy M.

Introductions – There were no new Information Service Representatives (ISRs), Group Representatives (GRs), Alternate GRs, or District Representatives (GRs).

Participants included:

Kathy M.	Ricki	Julia C.	Dick B.	Mike D.
Sue C.	Andrew M.	Mike M.	Steve R.	Lisa J.
Alice W.	Tim S.	Julie	Bob H.	Brian C.
Frank S.	Monta	Karen S.	Cynthia V.	Ellen S.
Betina G.	Grace F.	Judith P.	Leigh S.	

21 voting members present (and 3 non-voting).

February minutes approved by consent with one change. The minutes should only indicate that an individual has been elected to fill a position, and should not reference the number of yes, no or abstention votes.

February Treasurer’s report approved by consent.

The 7th Tradition was observed – Participants were encouraged to pay by the following methods: PayPal; Zelle or check to AIS. See issue with using PayPal going forward in Sue C’s comment in the Treasurer’s Report below.

Old Business

Literature Online Store. Andrew and Frank reported that the new website can be reviewed at <https://soaz.squarespace.com>. The password is alanon. The website and store may be online and working in a few weeks.

Founders Day. Kathy M. reported that the February 25th Founders Day was a great success and many thanks to Karen S., who was the coordinator of the event. Other members expressed their deep gratitude to Karen S.

Karen S. reported the following: there was a great turnout; everyone had fun seeing people that they had not seen for a few years; the program went well--the speakers were great; the decorations looked good; and, the raffle and literature sales were a success. Karen M. thanked the volunteers who helped with the event.

Karen S. expressed concern that the event may have cost more than the budgeted amount of \$500 but Sue C. reported that this was not the case. The expenses and income for the event were as follows:

Total Expenses: \$371.30
Rent: \$80
Paper Products/soda/water: \$123.07
Decorations: \$74.73
Literature for Raffle: \$93.50

New Business

Task Force to Review AIS Positions. Kathy M. discussed the idea of forming a Task Force to review AIS positions. The group discussed the number of unfilled positions and whether certain positions were needed. Whether some of the tasks of a particular position could be assumed by another position was also discussed. The consensus was to create a Task Force to review AIS positions. Mike M. agreed to be the lead. Dick B. also agreed to be on the Task Force.

Arizona Area Al-Anon and Alateen Convention. Kathy M. reported that the convention will be August 4-6 at the Sheraton Mesa Hotel at Wrigleyville West, 860 N. Riverview, Mesa AZ.

Certificate of Liability Renewal. Kathy M. reported that it is time for any family group that needs liability insurance to obtain the insurance at a cost of \$29 from Southern Arizona AIS. Groups need to affirmatively request the insurance. Kathy M. will be sending out additional information on this matter.

Election of Literature Coordinator. Leigh S. was elected to be the Literature Coordinator.

Possible Use of Outside Bookkeeper. Sue C. reported that she has been working with Michelle Y. to look into the feasibility of hiring a nonmember bookkeeper as a special paid worker to help with the workload of the Treasurer. There was discussion and consensus that the Task Force to review AIS Positions will consider the matter.

Election of Treasurer. Cynthia V. was nominated and elected to be the new Treasurer.

Election of Literature Coordinator. Leigh S. was nominated and elected to be the new Literature Coordinator.

Meeting List Coordinator. Kathy M. reported that Steve R. has worked in the position one year beyond his term but no one has come forward to fill the position. There was some discussion about having the Web Coordinator assume the responsibilities of the position. The consensus was that the Task Force to review AIS Positions should consider the matter.

Officer/Coordinator/DR Announcements and Reports

Chairperson. Kathy M. reminded the group that the Arizona Area Convention will be held at the Sheraton Mesa Hotel at Wrigleyville West, Mesa, AZ. August 4 – 6, 2023.

Treasurer. In addition to Sue C.'s formal report, Sue C. noted the following. She has filed the e-postcard form 990-N with the IRS. The Audit is complete. She has also filed the AZ Corporation Commission Annual Report and paid the \$10 fee. Sue C. also pointed out that the new website platform requires customers to have a PayPal account, and AIS is not comfortable requiring its members to have a PayPal account. Sue C. is looking into changing to "Stripe," another payment processing platform. Sue C. has written a letter requesting Stripe's non-profit transaction fee rate. Stripe's requirements for a non-profit to qualify for the non-profit transaction fee rate are very strict, requiring 80% of the income to the nonprofit to come from tax deductible contributions. Right now, AIS is at about 55%. Although Sue C. has asked for the non-profit transaction fee rate, she is not hopeful that her request will be granted. If AIS must use Stripe's regular transaction fee, it will add about \$100 to our fees on \$10,000 worth of business.

Secretary. Alice W. had nothing new to report.

DR for District 24. Julia C. had nothing new to report.

DR for District 20. Ricki thanked Andrew M. for being the speaker at the February speakers meeting held on the third Saturday of the month at the Alano Club in Green Valley. There is a new adult children's meeting on Mondays at 10:30 AM at St. Frances Episcopal Church. Ricki continues to do outreach.

Web Coordinator. Andrew and Tim S. reported that they are continuing to work together to transition Tim S. as the new Web Coordinator.

Literature Coordinator. Frank reported that it has been an honor to serve as the Literature Coordinator. His service allowed him to meet a number of people he would not have otherwise met. He has expanded his connections in the community including the Spanish community. Frank thanked Andrew for being there for him to help him with Spanish. Frank also reported that the Service Manual was now available for purchase through AIS.

Southern Arizona Liaison. Mike D. thanked Karen S. for all the work she did on Founders Day. Mike D. also reminded the group that the 2023 Al-Anon International Convention will be held on June 29-July 2, 2023, at the Albuquerque Convention Center in Albuquerque, NM. Reservations to ride the bus must be made by March 31.

Meeting List Coordinator. Steve R. reported that there is a “bug” in WSO’s list of online meetings—if a family group has put through the paperwork with WSO to be an Arizona Area permanent online group, it is not currently showing up on the WSO list of online meetings.

Kathy M. closed the meeting at 7:25 p.m. with the Al-Anon Declaration.

Next Southern Arizona AIS Meeting:

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

6:30-7:45 PM

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Respectfully submitted by Alice W., Secretary.